

Message Text

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FOR: TA/OST-AID AND NTIS-COMMERCE

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TAGS: EAID, ECIN, TGEN, BEXP

SUBJECT: ANDEAN PACT; NTIS/AID PROJECT ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

REF: LIMA A-251

1. REPAIR OUTLINED A PROPOSAL FOR EXPANSION OF NATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICE (NTIS) PROGRAM WITH AID UNDER WHICH COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IS RENDERED TO LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. FOLLOWING ARE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL.

2. MESSRS. KNOX (NTIS) AND FRY (TA/OST) DISCUSSED THE PROGRAM WITH MISSION AND ALSO WITH HOST COUNTRY AND ANDEAN PACT OFFICIALS DURING THEIR VISIT TO LIMA FEBRUARY 27 TO MARCH 1. IN MEETING WITH ANDEAN PACT JUNTA, A CLEAR COINCIDENCE OF VIEWPOINT WAS NOTED ON THE OBJECTIVES, PROPOSED OPERATING PROCEDURES AND USEFULNESS OF THE NTIS/AID PROGRAM. DISCUSSION WITH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR PERUVIAN ENTITIES ALSO WENT WELL, EXCEPT THAT ITINTEC WILL FOR THE TIME BEING REMAIN AN NTIS CUSTOMER, RATHER THAN BECOME A COOPERATING INSTITUTION.

3. THE PROPOSAL IN REPAIR CALLED FOR A TECHNICAL INQUIRY SERVICE WITHIN NTIS. SUCH SERVICE FUNCTION WOULD BE EXTREMELY
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USEFUL IN COMPLEMENTING THE REGULAR NTIS DATA RETRIEVAL

CAPABILITY, ESPECIALLY IN LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THIS PART OF THE PROGRAM COULD BE ADVANCED IN EXPERIMENTAL STAGES. AS A FIRST STEP, THE AID PROGRAM COULD FINANCE A SPANISH LANGUAGE NTIS PUBLICATION ON TECHNICAL INFORMATION AND ON PROPRIETARY TECHNOLOGIES IN THE U.S. SUCH A GUIDE WOULD FOSTER A BETTER GENERAL UNDERSTANDING IN LATIN AMERICA OF THE COMPLEXITY OF R&D IN THE U.S. AND OF THE DIVERSITY OF INFORMATION CHANNELS, AS WELL AS CITE SPECIFIC INFORMATION SOURCES IN THE U.S. PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS. FURTHERMORE, NTIS COULD ACT AS A CENTRAL REFERRAL POINT FOR EXISTING TECHNICAL INQUIRY SERVICES.

4. THE PROPOSED PROMOTIONAL PROGRAM COULD BE MODIFIED, GIVING MAJOR EMPHASIS TO USER SEMINARS IN THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. ORIENTATION IN THE U.S. COULD BE EFFECTED THROUGH THE ALREADY OPERATIVE NTIS INFORMATION SYSTEM WORKSHOPS.

5. THE NTIS/AID PROGRAM WILL COVER ONLY PART OF THE TECHNICAL INFORMATION NEEDS OF LDC'S. COORDINATION IS NEEDED WITH OTHER U.S. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR ACTIVITIES WHICH ENTER INTO PLAY IN BRINGING TOGETHER HOLDERS AND POTENTIAL USERS OF TECHNOLOGY. THE NTIS OVERSEAS PROGRAM COULD COMPLEMENT SOME OF THE DIB/COMMERCE ACTIVITIES. IN FACT, IT WOULD MERIT CONSIDERATION TO SERVICE THE COMMERCIAL SECTIONS AT U.S. MISSIONS WITH THE NTIS VISUAL SEARCH MICROFILM FILE (VSMF) SYSTEM.

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